

Message Text

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PM:DJJAMES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 145948

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO

SUBJECT: 4 MILLION DOLLAR "SUPPLY OPERATIONS CHARGE"

REF: AMMAN 3784

1. RE PARA 4 REFTTEL REGARDING COSTS OF SUPPLY OPERATIONS, WE ARE INFORMED THAT THERE ARE NO PCH AND T COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE EXTRA 10 MILLION DOLLARS. THE TOTAL MAP GRANT AID FOR JORDAN IN FY 1975 WILL BE 69.9 MILLION DOLLARS (INCLUDING THE ADDITIONAL 10 MILLION DOLLARS AVAILABLE WHEN THE SECRETARIAL DETERMINATION AND CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION PROCESSES ARE COMPLETE). OF THIS TOTAL, 5.9 MILLION WILL BE FOR PCH AND T.

2. INCLUDED IN THE EXTRA 10 MILLION DOLLARS IS (DOLS 4.2 MILLION) FOR UPGRADING FOLLOWING WEAPONS/VEHICLES:

--40 M 109 SP 155 MM HOWITZERS

--10 M 110 SP "8" HOWITZERS

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--7 M 88 MEDIUM TRACKED RECOVERY VEHICLES

--5 M 578 LIGHT RECOVERY VEHICLES

THESE UPGRADING COSTS ARE UNPROGRAMMED REQUIREMENTS FOR JORDAN'S FY 75 MAP. JORDAN REAFFIRMED IN APRIL 1975 THEIR REQUIREMENT TO RECEIVE THESE ITEMS UNDER A REDUCED PROGRAM IN THE QUANTITIES NOTED ABOVE.

3. DOD IS PROPOSING TO ALLOCATE THE ADDITIONAL 10 MILLION DOLLARS IN GRANT AID FUNDS AGAINST THE REQUIREMENTS TO UPGRADE THESE WEAPONS/VEHICLES AND APPLY THE BALANCE AGAINST THE LIST OF PRIORITY ITEMS THE GOJ SAID THEY WANT. THESE ITEMS INCLUDE TOW AND DRAGON ANTI-TANK WEAPONS AND ARTILLERY AMMUNITION. WITHIN THE 10 MILLION DOLLAR MAP SUPPLEMENT WE CAN FUND THEIR TOW AND DRAGON REQUESTS, AMMUNITION, AND UPGRADING EXPENSES FOR THE SELF-PROPELLED ARTILLERY AND TRACKED RECOVERY VEHICLES.

4. BEFORE WE APPROVE ALLOCATING DOLLARS 4.2 MILLION FOR UPGRADING WEAPONS/VEHICLES WE NEED TO HAVE YOUR ASSESSMENT AS WELL AS THE JORDANIAN REACTION TO THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

A. THE JORDANIANS COULD ACCEPT OUR FUNDING THESE REHABILITATION CHARGES OUT OF THE 10 MILLION DOLLARS. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THIS COURSE OF ACTION AS THE MOST DESIRABLE. IF THE EQUIPMENT IS TO BE REHABILITATED, THOSE COSTS MUST BE BORNE IN SOME FASHION.

B. THE JORDANIANS COULD AVOID THIS COST BY ACCEPTING THE WEAPONS/VEHICLES IN AN "AS IS" CONDITION. WHILE IT IS UP TO THE JORDANIANS TO DECIDE, WE WOULD NOT RECOMMEND THIS OPTION BECAUSE OF PAST JORDANIAN DISSATISFACTION OVER RECEIVING UNSERVICEABLE EQUIPMENT. IT IS LIKELY THAT MANY OF THE VEHICLES/WEAPONS INVOLVED HERE WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE JORDANIANS WITHOUT REHABILITATION.

C. THE JORDANIANS, IF THEY CHOSE, COULD BEAR THE COST OF REHABILITATION BY LETTING US WRITE AN FMS SALES CASE FOR 4.2 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF REHABILITATION. THIS, OF COURSE, WOULD LEAVE THE 10 MILLION DOLLARS IN MAP GRANT AID UNTOUCHED BY THESE COSTS, BUT THE GOJ WOULD STILL HAVE

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TO OBTAIN THE MONEY TO EXERCISE THIS OPTION. WE SEE NO REAL ADVANTAGE IN CHOOSING THIS COURSE.

5. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST. KISSINGER

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